

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SY-05 OPR-02 OC-05 CCO-00

A-01 CPR-01 USSS-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /045 W

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P 121120Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5566

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1476

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, IR

SUB: VICE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

REF: TEHRAN 1424, STATE 31842

1. ON BASIS DISCUSSION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR AND MINISTER OF COURT ALAM THIS MORNING, SUGGEST FOLLOWING SCENARIO FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT:

TUESDAY, MARCH 23: 1740--ARRIVE TEHRAN FROM PARIS. VICE PRESIDENT AND MRS. ROCKEFELLER AND MISS MURPHY PROCEED TO AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE WHERE THEY WILL SPEND FIRST NIGHT. HOTEL OR OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE ARRANGED FOR OTHERS WHEN WE KNOW SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PARTY AND CREW.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24: CA. 1000--DEPART VIA VICE PRESIDENT'S AIRCRAFT FOR KISH ISLAND WHERE ROYAL FAMILY WILL BE STAYING. VICE PRESIDENT AND MRS. ROCKEFELLER AND MISS MURPHY WILL BE IN PRIME MINISTER'S RESIDENCE. ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE PROVIDED ON ISLAND FOR OTHERS (PLEASE ADVISE HOW MANY IN PARTY, SUPPORT GROUP AND CREW WILL MAKE THIS TRIP). SUMMER CLOTHING INDICATED.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25: CA. 1000--DEPART FOR ISFAHAN FOR SIGHTSEEING AND SHOPPING. IN LATE AFTERNOON RETURN TO TEHRAN. ACCOMMODATIONS SAME AS MARCH 23.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 26:--DEPART FOR KUALA LUMPUR.

2. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, VISIT COMES AT HEIGHT OF IRANIAN NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS WHEN EVERY IRANIAN WHO IS ABLE TO DO SO LEAVES TEHRAN FOR HOLIDAY. HOTELS IN ISFAHAN ARE ALREADY FULLY BOOKED. FOR THAT REASON WE RECOMMEND RETURN TO TEHRAN AFTER SPENDING DAY IN ISFAHAN.

3. VIRTUALLY EVERY IRANIAN OF STANDING PROBABLY WILL BE OUT OF TEHRAN AFTER MARCH 21, BUT AMBASSADOR AND MRS. HELMS WOULD BE PLEASED TO HOST DINNER ON LAST NIGHT OF VISIT IF VICE PRESIDENT UNDERSTANDS IRANIAN ATTENDANCE MAY BE LIMITED. PLEASE ADVISE.

4. TEMPERATURE IN TEHRAN WILL PROBABLY BE MUCH LIKE WASHINGTON. ISFAHAN WILL BE A BIT WARMER.
HELMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TEHRAN01476
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760053-0841
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760253/aaaaburu.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TEHRAN 1424, 76 STATE 31842
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <10 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VICE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT
TAGS: OVIP, IR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006